One Industrial Tribunal (No. I) is without the Presiding Officer since 1-10-1985 and two other Tribunals since 12-8-1986. One Labour Court which was sanctioned in October, 1986 is also vacant.

The Delhi Administration have approached the Delhi High Court, as well as the High Courts of other neighbouring States viz. Uttar Pradesh; Punjab and Haryana; Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh for sending a panel of suitable and eligible Judicial Officers for appointment. Retired persons having the prescribed qualifications are also being considered.

The number of disputes pending disposal for more than three and five years as on 30-9-1986 in each Tribunal/Court is as under:—

		Over 3 Years	Over 5 Years
(a)	Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Court, New Delhi	26	26
(b)	Industrial Tribunal No. I, Delhi	26	6
(c)	Industrial Tribunal No. II, Delhi	123	—
(d)	Industrial Tribunal No. III, Delhi	—	—
(e)	Labour Court No. I, Delhi	120	—
(f)	Labour Court No. II, Delhi	75	135
(g)	Labourt Court No. III, Delhi	55	25
(h)	Labour Court No. IV, Delhi	74	188
(i)	Labour Court No. V, Delhi	143	100
(j)	Labour Court No. VI, Delhi	—	—
(k)	Labour Court No. VII, Delhi	7	5

Periodical meetings of Presiding Officers of Labour Courts/Industrial Tribunals are convened by the Secretary (Labour) Delhi Administration, to review the pendency and the Presiding Officers are asked to give priority to old cases. For prompt disposal of the disputes, the cases are transferred from one Court to other in the interest of equitable distribution and disposal of work.

With a view to ensure speedier disposal of cases, monthly norms of disposal of disputes have been fixed. Central Government has amended the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, providing for time limits for disposal of references. The monthly norms of the work of the Central Government Industrial Tribunal cum Labour Courts is periodically monitored. The Industrial Disputes (Central) Rules, have also been amended to provide for time frame for different stages to ensure speedy disposal.

GATT Conference

*6. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that at the Ministerial Conference of GATT held recently at Punts Del Esto, the United States of America demanded that negotiations on trade should include services also;

(b) if so, what was the stand taken by India; and

(c) what was the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) to (c) A new round of multilateral trade negotiations was launched at the *Punta del Este* Ministerial Meeting.

At the meeting the USA and a number of developed countries had sought to launch negotiations in the area of trade in services as a part of multilateral trade negotiations under the framework of GATT. India's stand was that GATT did not have jurisdiction in the area of services and issues in the area of services could not be negotiated within the framework of GATT. The GATT approaches would not be appropriate for the services sector on account of their varied character and socio-economic ramifications. Further India perceived the danger of the possible use of the leverage of trade in goods to secure concessions in the area of services. Consensus was finally reached by adopting the Declaration launching a new round of multilateral trade negotiations in two parts—part I relating to negotiations on trade in goods and part II relating to trade in services. Whereas the first part was adopted by the Ministers meeting as CONTRACTING PARTIES to GATT, the second part was adopted by Ministers meeting as representatives of Governments. The negotiations on services would be held on a separate track outside the framework of GATT and two different Groups have been set up, one for negotiations in the area of trade in goods and the other for trade in services. Both these Groups shall report to the Trade Negotiations Committee which has also been established by the Declaration.

Assistance to front line African countries

*7. SHRI KALPNATH RAI:

SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state what strategy, if any, was evolved at the Non-Aligned Summit Meet in Harare in September this year to help the front line African countries and other small countries whose economy largely depended on trade with South Africa to withstand the adverse pressure on the economy following the decision by NAM to enforce economic sanctions against the Pretoria regime?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): The Eighth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-aligned countries held in Harare recently resolved to establish the AFRICA (Action for Resisting Invasion, Colonialism and Apartheid) Fund with the objective to strengthen the economic and financial capability of the Frontline States, to support the Liberation Movements in South Africa and Namibia, to assist the Frontline States to enforce sanctions against South Africa and to cope with any retaliatory economic action by South African regime.

The Fund is required to establish a strategic relief reserve to relieve shortages of essential commodities, to strengthen transport and communication system in the frontline States, to ensure the safety of infrastructural installations and networks, to neutralize negative trade effects, to develop trained manpower resources and to intensify mobilization of international public opinion against apartheid.

Introduction of new visa system by U.K.

*8. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new visa system has been introduced by U.K. Government to control the entry of visitors from certain Asian countries including India;

(b) if so, what are the details of the new visa system; and

(c) what is Government's assessment about the effectiveness of this